PFC Assistance for Power Generating Units

4087. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU) : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation have a policy for advancing money for setting up of power generation units in the various States; and

(b) if so, who decides this policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has a policy for Financing Power Generation units in various States. The operations of PFC are guided by the "Operational Policy Statement" (OPS) approved by its Board of Directors. The latest OPS was approved by the Board of Directors in September, 1998.

Declining Trend of Rural Electrification

4088. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified during the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plans, separately, State-wise;

(b) the number of villages covered during the first year of the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a declining trend in the area of rural electrification;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to reverse the trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) State-wise details of the number of villages electrified during the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plans separately are given in the Statement-I (*See* p. 156).

(b) The number of villages electrified during the first year, i.e. 1997-98 of the Ninth Five Year Plan State-wise are given at Statement-II (*See* p. 156).

(c) As compared to the 8th Plan, there has been some decline in the progress of village electrification during the 9th Plan. Many of the villages that